

# *Gilmore Barn*

*New Castle, Pennsylvania  
North Beaver Township*



***In the Past:*** The Gilmore barn was built circa 1880. Joseph Clark Wilson purchased the farm in 1878. He built the barn to accommodate a hay trolley, which was not common until the mid 1880's. Original property ownership of the land parcel dates back to 1785. Joseph Clark Wilson was touted as one of the best - known residents of North Beaver Township. He had a great reputation for being a successful fruit grower as well as the raising of fine livestock, especially horses. The farm was purchased by William James Gilmore in 1920. In 1927, William's son, Joseph Gilmore farmed the land. A 1930 Agricultural census shows that they had 46 acres of hay, 25 apple trees, 20 peach trees, and 6 pear trees. Livestock included: 5 work horses, 19 milk cows, 7 heifers, 2 sows, 28 other swine, 80 hens, and 10 other chickens. Amenities were lacking on the Gilmore farm: no running water in the farm kitchen, no telephone, radio or electricity; but they had a furnace heating system. The Gilmore's also had an automobile, a gas engine, and silos. In 1953, the Gilmore's 17 year old daughter was crowned the local Grange May Queen.

In 1990, a farm lease of parcel included "use of red barn". The town of New Castle, PA has two claims to fame: one as the "hot dog capitol of the world" and the other as "fireworks capital of America. From 1840-1870, the area was popular in the raising of sheep for wool production. The biggest boom for wool occurred during the Civil War for uniforms and blankets. Wool production continued after the Civil War. Bank barns like the Gilmore barn were design as a multi purpose barn adapted to cater to the needs of sheep.

## ***Barn Facts:***

- Bank Barn
- Corrugated Metal roof
- 40' x 60'
- Oak hand hewn beams
- Dismantled in 2019



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